



Greenfield April 24th 1840

Dear Mr.

Yours of 22d is just received. To a few points I wish immediately to reply.

You express yourself half inclined to cut from your present engagement and take hold as agent of our Society. This half inclination keeps both you & us in suspense & hot water. Why not do it at once & have it ended? You ask if I will raise the money. Be sure I will. But who will make the application? A vote of the course is requisite for that. I can raise money fast enough, but they must apply it. I will vote for it, on condition you will become our Secy. Agt before you go. Not without.

With regard to Ben T. my own fears correspond with your own. But what to do is not so easily told. He has the best field - decidedly so - in the Commonwealth. In two weeks, I ~~had~~ obtained about \$350,00 in subscriptions in Fair Haven: and then are probably no better than the county will average. More than two thousand dollars might be obtained there by an efficient agent. Thought can not tell what we shall do, I can what we shall not. Money which I collect, must not go to pay his salary. The first dollar thus appropriated, will mud up to my soul in collecting I assure you.

Almost every one of our friends, good bad and indifferent is outrageous at a third nomination. So far as my knowledge stands, we will not carry one in two. The scheme appears to me every day more & more like a mad one. I do not believe fifteen hundred votes will be obtained in Mass. And I intend to write Birney before I sleep, state to him my convictions and urge him to decline the nomination.

Every thing in this country is in confusion. I can do nothing to the least advantage, till I shall have you all over it. Unless hear from Boys by Monday night, you will see me in Boston Tuesday.

Yours truly,

A. S. Blair